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STARK COMMENTS ON BUDGET BILL

WASHINGTON, DC -- Today, US Rep. Pete Stark (D-Fremont) gave the following statement regarding House passage of the Budget Resolution.

"The budget House Republicans passed today fails the moral test of government. It requires deep cuts in Medicaid, Head Start, environmental initiatives, childcare and education, while simultaneously maintaining tax cuts for the rich.

"Showcasing the Republicans' misplaced priorities is a \$10 billion cut to Medicaid. By the Administration's own estimates, we are overpaying Medicare HMOs by more than \$21 billion. By simply ceasing these overpayments, we could have saved twice as much as the Republicans are getting from their Medicaid cuts, but no children, pregnant women or people with disabilities would lose their healthcare. Instead, Republicans chose to help HMO CEOs over America's families.

"This budget continues to show who is most important to the Republican Party. While the richest Americans continue to reap the benefits, working families and those struggling to make ends meet are forced to remain out in the cold."